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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 834,249	04 11 2001	Kelly J. Reasoner	10004965-1	5874

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JIMMY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2829	

DATE MAILED: 09 18 2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/834,249	REASONER, KELLY J.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Jimmy Nguyen	2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133)
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b)

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 June 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Argument

The applicant's argument has been considered with the following effect;

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 13, and 25 to clarify that applicant's invention includes the non-permanent coupling to an external test instrument, in particular, capable of being non-permanently electrically coupled to an external test instrument. This is distinguished from Pankove's permanent electrical connection within a self contained test instrument (page 4 of remark). The examiner agrees. However, upon further search the examiner provides new ground of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cake et al (US 5293122).

As to claims 1, 13, 25, Cake et al disclose an electrical probe (fig 1A) including A probe body (12);

A probe tip (14) mechanically coupled to probe body (12), wherein probe tip (14) is capable of being non-permanently electrically coupled to an external test instrument(throughout connector 22); and

A control device (16 on/off switches) mechanically coupled to probe body (12),
wherein control device (16 on/off switches) is capable of being non-permanently
electrically coupled (22) to test instrument and

A communication port (22) mechanically coupled to probe body (12), and
electrically coupled to control device (16 on/off switches) and probe tip (14),
wherein communication port (22) is capable of being non-permanently electrically
coupled to an electrical test instrument (scope)

As to claims 2, 14, 28, Cake et al disclose (fig 1A) the finger guard (as seen in
the figure) mechanically coupled to probe body (12)

As to claims 3 - 7, 15 –19, 29 –33, Cake et al disclose the control device is a
push button switch, rotary switch, track ball, joystick and includes an
optoelectronic motion encoder (16 on/off switches)

As to claims 8, 20, 34, Cake et al disclose a mode display (column 2 line 5 –
15) mechanically coupled to probe body (12) and electrically coupled to test
instrument visually representing a configuration of test instrument.

As to claims 9 – 12, 21 –24, 35-38, Cake et al disclose the mode display is
Liquid Display (scope, column 2 line 5 - 15)

As to claims 26, 27, Cake e et al disclose the function of test instrument includes storing test data, and printing test data (would be perform by oscilloscope)

Conclusion

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy Nguyen at (703) 306-5858. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.

JN.
Sep 8, 2002



9/12/02

MICHAEL SHERRY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800